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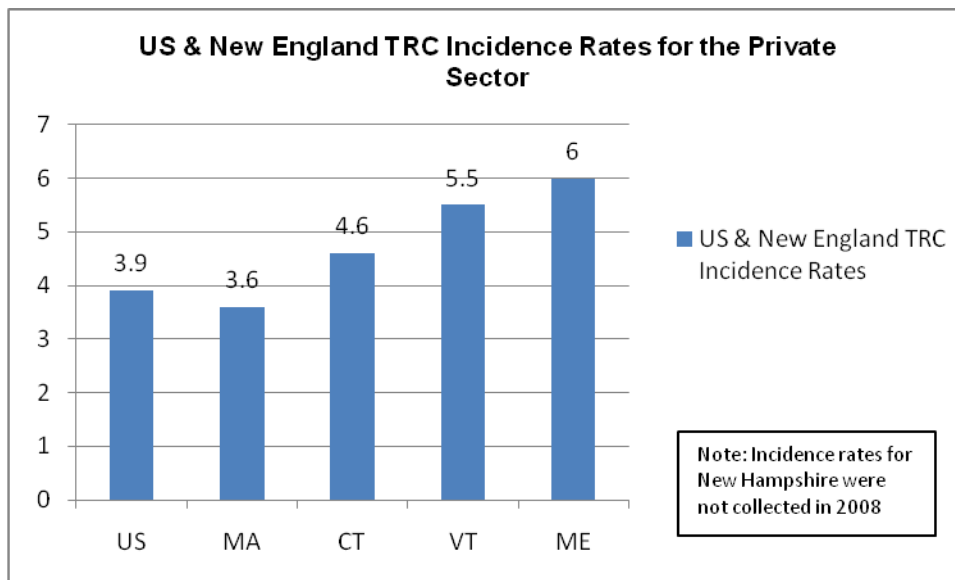
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

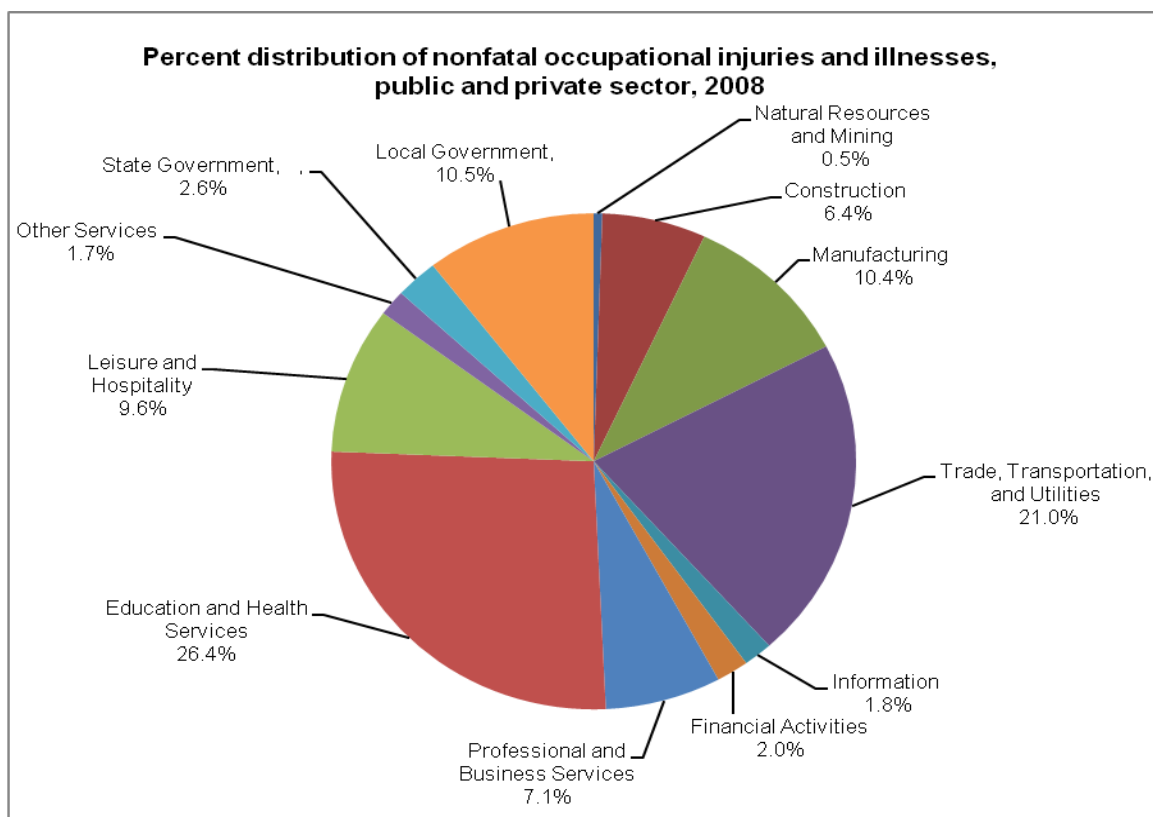
MASSACHUSETTS OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND ILLNESSES REPORT, 2008

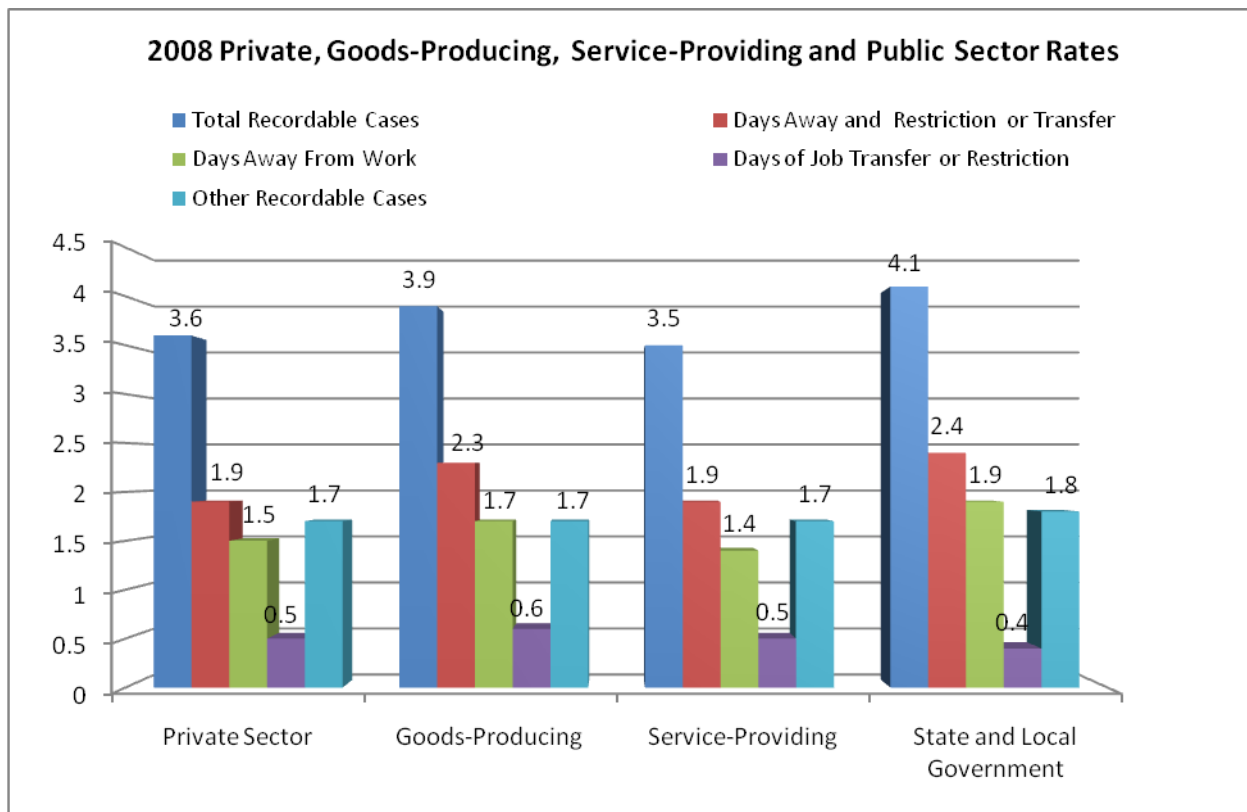
The Division of Occupational Safety (DOS) has released data on nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses for 2008. National public sector estimates covering nearly 19 million state and local government workers are available for the first time from the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII) for the reference year 2008. Response from public sector establishments is required by state law in some states, particularly those that have OSHA-designated state plans that cover state and local government workers. In other states, participation in the SOII is voluntary for state and local government establishments. While Massachusetts is not an OSHA-plan state, in April of 2009, Governor Deval L. Patrick signed Executive Order 511 Establishing the Massachusetts Employee Safety and Health Advisory Committee, which, among other provisions, requires that all state agencies that are selected as sample units for the SOII shall comply with the reporting requirements relating to injury and illness data. This mandate should prove helpful to data collection efforts in future years.

In 2008, approximately 82,600 nonfatal injuries and illnesses were reported among the more than 2.85 million private sector workers in Massachusetts. This equates to a total recordable incidence rate (TRC) of 3.6 injuries and illnesses per 100 full-time equivalent workers (FTEs). Massachusetts' rate of 3.6 injuries per 100 workers represents the lowest rate among the reporting New England states, and the only New England state with an incidence rate lower than the national rate of 3.9 injuries per 100 FTEs. The public sector, which consists of state and local government workplaces, accounted for 363,000 workers, or 11.3% of Massachusetts' total workforce. The public sector reported 12,600 occupational injuries and illnesses and had an incidence rate of 4.1 injuries per 100 FTEs.



It is important to note that Massachusetts' number of nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses decreased significantly from 2007 to 2008. This was mainly due to the number of total recordable injury-only cases declining. The *Massachusetts Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Reports* contain more specific data relative to changes in the 2008 data by individual industry sectors.





PRIVATE SECTOR SUMMARY

Of the 82,600 total recordable workplace injuries and illnesses in Massachusetts during 2008, roughly 33,300 (40.3%) resulted in lost workdays, while approximately 11,300 (13.7%) of cases involved job transfer or restriction. Approximately 37,900 (45.9%) of all cases were recordable but did not lose work time or have job transfer or restriction. OSHA recordkeeping guidelines define a “recordable” case as one involving death, days away from work, restricted work or transfer to another job, medical treatment beyond first aid, or loss of consciousness. The incidence rates for cases with days away from work was 1.5 cases per 100 FTEs, while job transfer or restriction had an incidence rate of 0.5 per 100 FTEs, and the rate for other recordable cases was 1.7, all relatively similar to the 2007 rates.

Typically, injury and illness data are collected for all industry sectors. However we can group most industries into either *goods-producing* or *service-providing categories*. As a whole, goods-producing industries employed about 15% (434,900) of the private sector workforce in Massachusetts,

but had a higher incidence rate than service-providing industries, which employed the remaining 85% (2,415,000) of the private sector workforce in 2008. The Total Recordable (TRC) incidence rate for goods-producing industries, which includes the three major industry sectors of: (1) **natural resources and mining**, (2) **construction**, and (3) **manufacturing**, was 3.9 injuries and illnesses per 100 FTEs. The service-providing industries included the following seven major industry sectors: (1) **trade, transportation, and utilities**, (2) **information**, (3) **financial activities**, (4) **professional and business services**, (5) **education and health services**, (6) **leisure and hospitality**, and (7) **other services**. The service-providing industries, collectively, had a TRC incidence rate of 3.5 injuries and illnesses per 100 FTEs.

Among the ten major industries in the private sector, the highest occupational injury and illness incidence rate occurred in natural resources and mining with a rate of 8.1 TRC per 100 FTEs. In 2007, this industry sector had a TRC incidence rate of 4.9 injuries and illnesses per 100 FTEs. Approximately 6,900 (0.02%) of Massachusetts' private sector employees worked in the natural resources and mining sector, which includes: mining and fishing, forestry, agriculture, and hunting. The lowest total case incidence rate, with only 0.9 cases per 100 FTEs, occurred in the financial activities sector, which employed approximately 221,700 (7.8%) of the state's private sector workforce. The rest of the total case incidence rates per 100 FTEs for the remaining private sector industries are listed in descending order based on their TRC rates:

- The education and health services industry employed 21.1% of the workforce (600,300 workers), and had a TRC rate of 5.6 cases per 100 FTEs.
- The leisure and hospitality industry employed approximately 10.8% of the workforce (308,000 workers), and had a TRC rate of 5.1 cases per 100 FTEs.
- The construction industry employed 4.9% of the workforce (138,400 workers), and had a TRC rate of 4.8 cases per 100 FTEs.
- The trade, transportation, and utilities industry employed 20.1% of the workforce (573,200 workers), and had a TRC rate of 4.3 cases per 100 FTEs.
- The manufacturing industry employed 10.2% of the workforce (289,600 workers), and had a TRC rate of 3.5 cases per 100 FTEs.

- The information industry employed 3.0% of the workforce (86,900 workers), and had a TRC rate 2.2 cases per 100 FTEs.
- The other services industry employed 4.6% of the workforce (131,000 workers), and had a TRC rate of 2.0 cases per 100 FTEs.
- Professional and business services employed 17.3% of the workforce (494,000 workers), and had a TRC rate of 1.6 cases per 100 FTEs.

Nonfatal occupational *injuries-only* accounted for approximately 94%, or 77,800, of the 82,600 total recordable injury and illness cases in 2008. The incidence rate for occupational *injuries-only* was 3.4 cases per 100 FTEs. The education and health services sector had the largest number of injury-only cases in Massachusetts, with approximately 23,000 injuries, or 29.6% of all reported injury cases. The financial activities and other services industries had the lowest number of injury-only cases with approximately 1,500 cases in each sector, or, 1.9% of all injury-only cases.

The remaining 4,800 (5.8%) of nonfatal occupational injury and illness cases were work-related *illnesses*. For occupational *illnesses-only*, the overall incidence rate was 20.8 cases per 10,000 FTEs. Of the 4,800 reported occupational illnesses, 22.9% (1,100) occurred in the goods-producing sector. Most of the occupational illnesses occurred in the service-providing sector with a total of 3,600 illness, or, 75% of the total. Among the individual industry sectors, education and health services had the largest number of illness-only cases with 2,100 (43.8%) of the total reported cases. Within the education and health services industry sector, 95% (2,000) of illness-only cases occurred in the health care and social assistance subsector. The education and health services industry was followed by the manufacturing sector with 800 (16.7%) illnesses-only cases. Due to the relatively small number of occupational illnesses (4,800 illness-only cases), many of the sectors had approximately the same number of reported cases; with the exception of the leisure and hospitality sector, which did not report enough illness-only cases to produce any statistically significant data.

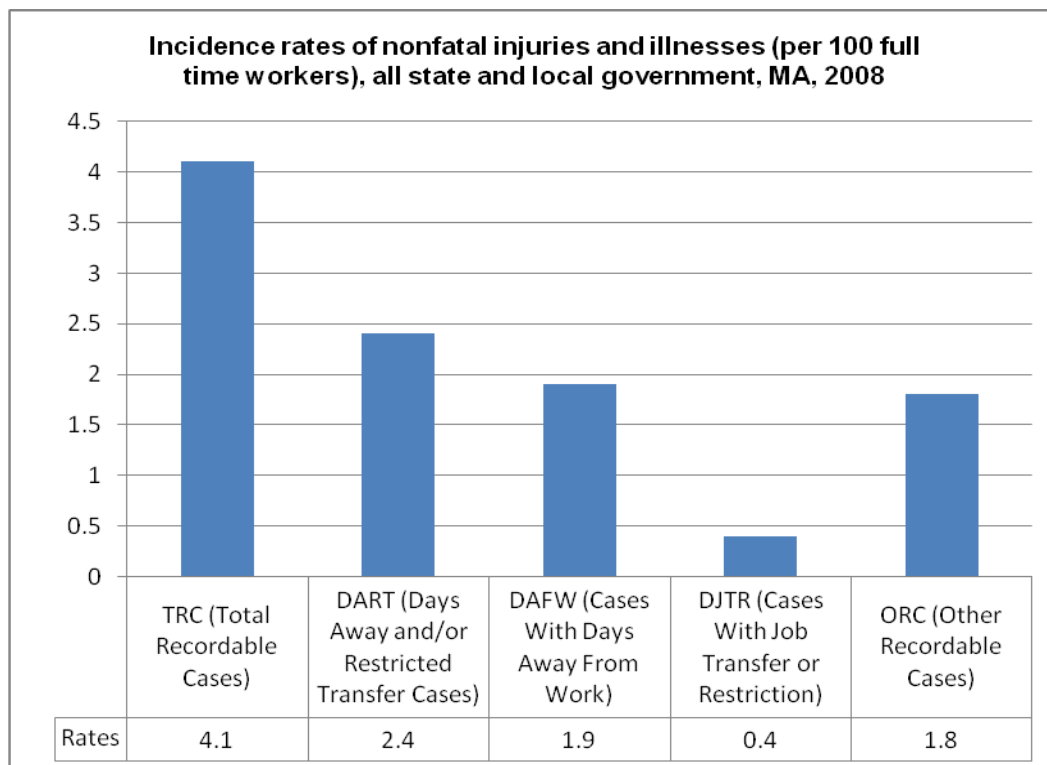
PUBLIC SECTOR SUMMARY

In 2008, the public sector in Massachusetts accounted for 363,000 workers. That translates to approximately 11.3% of the total Massachusetts workforce. State government accounted for

approximately 105,200 employees or, 29% of the public sector workforce, whereas local government accounted for 71%, or 257,700 workers.

The public sector industries are divided into fewer subdivisions than the private sector. State government is broken down into two subsectors: education and health services and public administration. Local government can be broken down into three subsectors: trade, transportation and utilities, education and health services, and public administration. It should also be noted that some data is included for “all other occupations” which represents data from those agencies and employees that cannot be grouped into the aforementioned sectors and therefore cannot be individually represented.

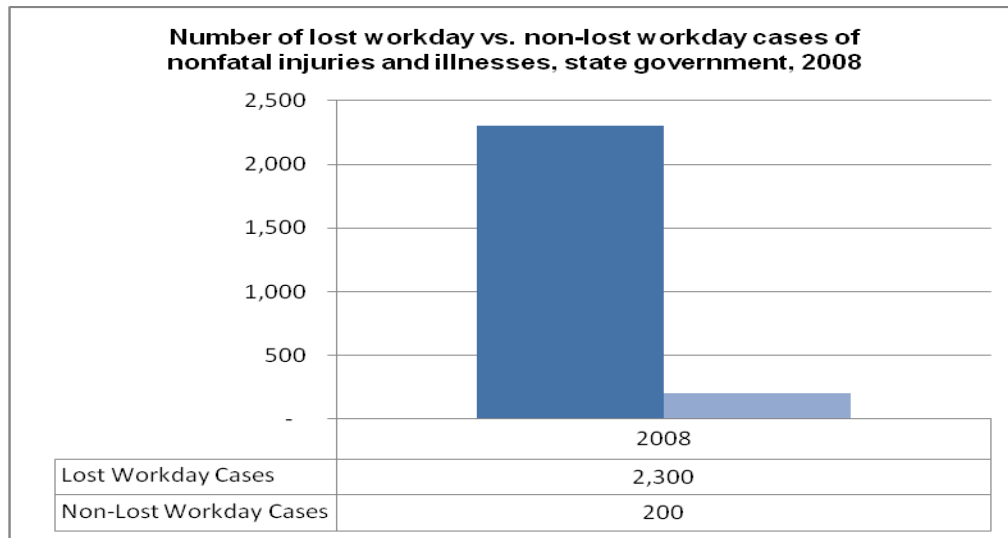
The overall incidence rate for the public sector, including state and local government, was 4.1 injuries and illnesses per 100 Full Time Equivalent Employees (FTEs). The Days Away or Restricted or Transferred (DART) rate which includes only those cases that resulted in days away from work and/or job transfer or restriction, was 2.4 incidents per 100 FTEs. The Days Away From Work (DAFW)-only incidence rate was 1.9; and the incidence rate for Other Recordable cases was 1.8.



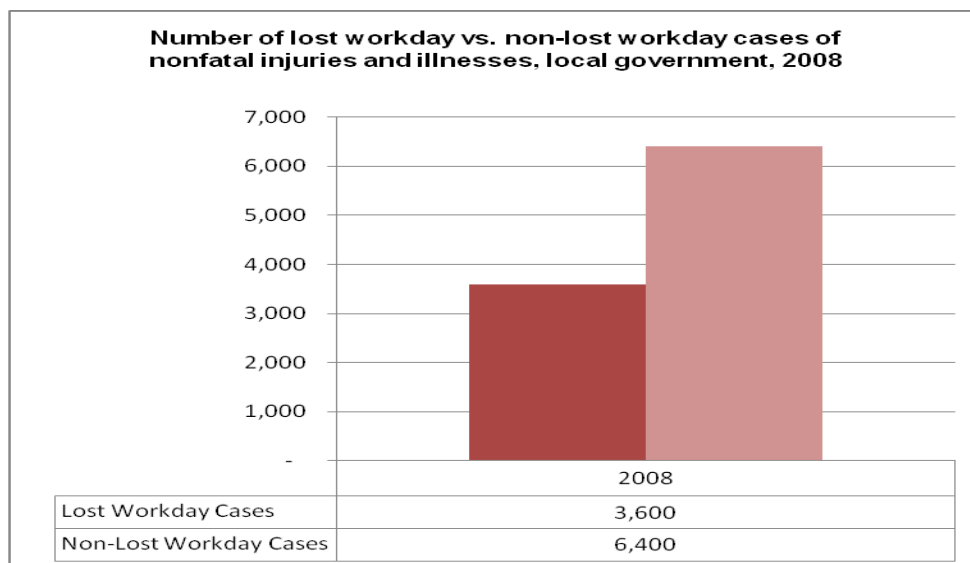
State government had a TRC rate of 2.6 incidents per 100 FTEs; the DART rate was 2.5, the DAFW rate was 2.3, and the Other Recordable rate was 0.2 incidents per 100 FTEs. Within the state government, the education and health services subsector, which includes state universities and colleges, as well as state hospitals and health facilities, had a higher incidence rate than that of the public administration subsector. Education and health had a TRC rate of 1.3 and a DAFW rate of 1.3. Public administration had a DART rate of 1.1 and a DAFW rate of 1.0.

Local government had a total case incidence rate of 4.9 incidents per 100 FTEs. The DART rate was 2.3; the DAFW rate was 1.7 and the Other Recordable rate was 2.6 incidents per 100 FTEs. Within local government, the public administration subsector had the highest incidence rates. The TRC for public administration was 6.6 incidents per 100 FTEs, the DART rate was 5.0, and the DAFW rate was 3.6; there was not enough data to produce incidence rates for other recordable cases. The education and health subsector had a TRC rate of 3.9 incidents per 100 FTEs, with the educational services-only TRC rate relatively similar at 3.4 incidents per 100 FTEs. The trade, transportation and utilities subsector did not have enough data to publish incidence rates as a whole; however, within the subsector water, sewage and other systems group, which employed approximately 2,200 employees, that subsector had a TRC rate of 8.1 and a DAFW rate of 7.8 incidents per 100 FTEs.

State government accounted for approximately 2,500 of the 12,600 occupational injuries and illnesses in the public sector in 2008; approximately 2,000 of those cases were injury-only and 500 were illness-only. Of the 2,500 cases, approximately 92%, or 2,300, were cases that resulted in days away from work. Incidents resulting in job transfer or restriction, or were other recordable cases, accounted for 200 cases.



Local government accounted for the majority of the work-related incidents in the public sector. There were approximately 10,000 reported work-related incidents in local government. Approximately 9,400 of those were injury-only cases; the education and health services subsector had approximately 4,700 (50%) of these cases; the public administration subsector had 3,600 (38%) of the injury-only cases. The remaining 1,100 injury-only cases can be attributed to the trade, transportation and utilities and all other industry sectors. Local government had relatively the same amount of illness-only cases, reporting approximately 700 cases compared to the 600 illnesses reported in state government.



Notes about the Data

Survey data for the SOII is derived from mandatory logs kept by private industry employers and participating public sector employers during the calendar year. All survey responses are confidential and are used for statistical purposes only. The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses is a federal-state government partnership between the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety (DOS).

Readers are advised that not all results for 2008 are comparable to those from years prior to 2004 because a new occupational classification system was implemented for the 2004 survey year. This nationwide Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses stopped using the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system in 2002, and began using the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) in 2003. Since Massachusetts did not publish state-specific reports for 2003, this is the fifth year that survey results are being presented using the new classification system. The substantial differences between these two systems result in breaks in series for industry data, thereby minimizing the ability to make true and accurate time-series comparisons among the major industrial categories.